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San Jose hosts first and second
round madness
SEE PAGE 6

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Garage crime on the rise at SJSU

Justin Albert
Staff Writer

There has been a slight increase in property crimes such as burglaries, motor vehicle theft and vandalism at the SJSU parking garages, said a public information officer of the University Police Department.

“Property crimes are all about opportunity,” Sgt. Manuel Aguayo said. “We can’t guarantee 100 percent that crime will not happen, but we want to reduce the opportunity for people to become victims of crime.”

Property crimes, which typically consist of burglary, theft, vandalism and auto theft, are the four top crimes that occur at SJSU parking garages, he said.

Parking garages in general aren’t necessarily magnets for crime, Aguayo said, but they do offer opportunities for criminal activity.

He said violent crimes are fewer than property crimes in the parking garages.

“Some of the more profound crimes are very few and infrequent,” Aguayo said. “So far this year we’ve had only one robbery in or around each of the garages.”

Avoiding danger in the garages is a matter of being aware of one’s surroundings and not getting sucked into personal issues while walking to the car, he said.

“What we’re doing is increasing awareness about parking garage safety and putting extra patrols at the parking garages,” Aguayo said.

He said extra patrols include UPD officers in addition to volunteer police cadets, parking enforcement and maintenance staff.

Senior business major Johnson Hem said he parks in the Fourth Street garage and

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University to execute new diversity strategy

Melissa L. Johnson
Staff Writer

A newly completed diversity master plan is in the process of being implemented on SJSU’s campus and is aimed toward all members of the campus community, said a campus director.

Arthur Dunklin, director of the Office for Equal Opportunity and Workforce Planning, said the office is the facilitator of this new strategy.

“There is a renewed emphasis on issues of diversity and certainly within the last three years this is one of the president’s high priority items alongside technology and sustainability,” Dunklin said.

The Office for Equal Opportunity receives, processes and investigates all complaints of protected class discrimination, he said.

Dunklin said “protected class” refers to groups covered by federal and state laws and university policy.

“We will investigate them (complaints) and make a determination whether or not there’s sufficient evidence to sustain this complaint and is-

sue a report if necessary,” he said.

Dunklin said his staff is committed to being more proactive and that his office is committed to increasing awareness of diversity and harassment.

“I think SJSU is an extremely diverse school,” said junior English major Javier Gutarra. “The programs that SJSU has now are doing well enough in diversity.”

Actions speak louder than words regarding diversity, Dunklin said.

“When we look at diversity, we view it as a value, which means that it’s something that should be considered in everything we do,” he said. “Values people often talk about, but they’re better seen than heard — you can see or tell these by how people or an organization behaves.”

This plan is made up of a series of action steps, Dunklin said, to help the university achieve its diversity goals, and those steps are centered on two main concepts — inclusion and representation.

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Music acts as student’s ‘bass’

Kristen Pearson
Staff Writer

Andrew Hartman grew up into a world of music.

“I spent my early years listening to my parents and playing the guitar with them,” the junior music major said.

When Hartman was in fifth grade, his middle school band teacher put together a band in his garage with the fifth graders so they’d be ready for middle school band, Hartman said.

“The teacher didn’t need anymore piano students, and since my dad was a bassist, I picked up the bass as well,” he said.

Hartman studies music at SJSU and works on keeping up a scholarship to stay in the program, said his twin brother Austin Hartman, a junior forensics major.

“He works really hard at everything he does in music,” Austin Hartman said.

To keep a bass scholarship in the program, Hartman said a student needs to maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher and be actively enrolled in the music program as a bass player.

“I’m a pretty good student, so I don’t usually have to worry about the grades,” he said.

Bass-man

Hartman said he plays in the Shannon Cooper Band.

“Shannon Cooper is the vocalist, Blane plays guitar, Chris plays the keyboard, Mike plays the drums and I play the bass,” he said.

The band plays songs people know, but makes those songs its own, Hartman said.

“We try to set ourselves apart with our style of the songs we play,” he said.

Hartman said he also plays for Children’s Musical Theater, Saratoga Drama Group, Presentation High School and Santa Teresa High School, where he also teaches.

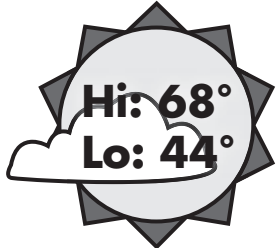
“I’ve played at all of these venues many times and played around 30 musicals over and

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Andrew Hartman practices an acoustic bass in the Concert Hall of the Music building Friday. PHOTOS BY THOMAS WEBB / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Weather



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BASSIST

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over again including ‘Grease,’ ‘Beauty and the Beast’ and ‘Lucky Duck,’” Hartman said.

Language of Expression

Hartman said he started out playing concert band music but jumped at the opportunity to perform jazz in middle school.

“You learn jazz easily by listening to it, so I listened to it a lot,” he said. “In the language of music, jazz is my dialect. As a category of music, jazz is a natural extension of the soul and that’s one of the things I love about it.”

The music Hartman plays is not usually classical and jazz has many interesting rhythms to follow, Austin Hartman said.

“Jazz is fun, so Andrew’s music is fun and he usually plays the upbeat songs,” he said. “Mostly his music is pretty good, although he’s played in ‘Les Misérables’ around five times, so that got kind of old.”

Hartman’s music expresses who he is as a person, said his girlfriend Andrea Cook.

“It’s about God with him and not just about his music,” Cook said. “He gives all the credit to God for his talent.”

Jazz has many different facets and a large range of diversity, Hartman said.

“It’s the bastard child of classical music,” he said. “The music of jazz breaks classical rules of color and texture although it is a child of classical music. There’s a different style of jazz for every mood. There are swing bebop, fusion, gospel, cool, freeform and so many more.”

Hartman said humans perceive things visually.

“The color of the music is the notes I’m choosing to play,” he said. “If different genres of music are different languages, then the notes I play are words in the

language. And the texture of the music is the font I chose to play them in.”

The rules in jazz are more like guidelines so the music can be fiddled with, Hartman said.

“Jazz is organic,” he said. “You play what moves you. It’s like you’re being expressive with your music. In an artist’s sense, it’s like abstract art.”

A jazz musician has to know music theory well enough to play jazz on the fly because keeping within the key signature is important when it comes to playing chords and scales, Hartman said.

Musical Environments

He said he is surrounded by people who are also musically inclined and that his dad was one of the most influential people in his musical life.

“When I was young, he always encouraged me to do more musically, and to satisfy my musical curiosity,” Hartman said.

Jaco Pastorius, a famous bass player, was also one of his major influences, Hartman said.

“Jaco has shown me what can be done with a bass and is something to aspire to, but I don’t really model my sound after anybody,” he said.

Hartman said his father was a bassist and his mother was a singer.

Hartman and his brother were in a band together in school for many years, Austin Hartman said.

“I used to play clarinet, then moved on to alto saxophone, and then baritone saxophone, then moved to drums and then to marimba,” he said. “I also played the hand bells during my early years.”

Having a twin brother who played many instruments in middle and high schools may seem normal, Cook said, but other people in Hartman’s life are involved in music as well.

“I was in jazz band in high school,” she said. “I played pi-

ano for a year, saxophone for five years, bass clarinet for two years and now sing in a choir for Christian club on campus at Santa Clara University.”

Sacrifice of Passion

Austin Hartman said his brother plays in a combo in school, plays in one outside of school and plays in gigs wherever he can.

“He cancels hanging out with people for his music,” he said. “He doesn’t even get paid for rehearsals and doesn’t need to rehearse, but he still has to be at the rehearsals.”

A combo is a small group of musicians who play jazz, according to the book “Jazz” by Paul Tanner, David W. Megill and Maurice Gerow.

“The piano played the underlying beat and a solo horn improvised on the fill-ins during a pause in the vocal line,” according to “Jazz.”

Cook said Hartman has a strong work ethic and is taking a heavy course load to finish his degree.

“His load involves learning all the instruments in the string family, the woodwind family and the brass family in classes called Brass Fundamentals, Woodwind Fundamentals and String Fundamentals,” she said.

Cook said she appreciates Hartman’s music, but said she fears it will take him too far from her.

Hartman said his gigs are always at night and they’re usually on the weekends.

“The worst thing I have to sacrifice is social life,” he said.

Hartman said it’s pretty easy for him to prioritize things based on when they come to him and who is involved.

He said he prioritizes based on a combination of what is due first and what is more difficult.

“I’ll practice the stuff that’s coming up, unless it’s easy enough to sight read,” Hartman said.

Students celebrate family, culture on Persian new year

Jasmine Duarte

Staff Writer

Norooz, which means "new day" in Farsi, marks the celebration of the Persian new year and the beginning of spring.

Norooz is linked to the solar calendar and fell on the vernal equinox, March 20.

It is the most important holiday in Iranian culture, said Persis Karim, an associate professor of English and comparative literature.

“It’s a very family-oriented celebration,” said senior business management major Nima Naserkhaki. “Norooz is the only holiday that religion does not come in to play. That’s why it’s such a huge holiday.”

Norooz is a time of celebration and coincides with the blooming of flowers and trees, Karim said.

The last Wednesday of the previous year, celebrants perform Chahar-Shanbeh Soori, a ceremony that purifies and rids people of negative energy by jumping over a fire pit, said Maryam Azarchehr, a sophomore English and comparative literature major.

“Fire is a purifying symbol of God and gets rid of the evil energy,” Azarchehr said. On Norooz, a celebratory table called the haft-sin where seven objects that start with the letter “S” are laid for the new year, Azarchehr said.

Families sit around a haft-sin and admire the meaning and togetherness the new year brings, Azarchehr said. Some of the items on a haft-sin table include a sprout or lentil dish to symbolize re-



A traditional haft-sin table is arranged for Norooz. PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYAM AZARCHEHR

birth, a sweet pudding made from wheat germ to symbolize affluence, garlic to symbolize medicine, an apple for beauty and health, sumac berries to represent the colors of the sunrise and vinegar to symbolize age and patience, according to Payvand Iran News Web site.

When lentils and wheat seed sprout, they are left on the haft-sin as a symbol of rebirth, Azarchehr said.

“Most farmers would do this, and whichever seed sprouted better, that’s the seeds they would plant for that season,” she said.

Right before Norooz, the family must clean the entire house, Azarchehr said.

For Norooz, families clean every nook and cranky of the house and wear new outfits to start the year off renewed, Azarchehr said.

“Every tiny bit you can reach, a clean house for a good year,” she said. “Everything must be new, even your clothes.”

After the Norooz, the 13 days that follow are spent visiting families and attending parties, Azarchehr said.

“It’s bad luck if you don’t see all your relatives after Norooz,” Azarchehr said. “You see relatives you may not have seen the entire year.”

On the 13th day of Norooz, called sizdeh bedar, Persian families must be outside of their home and usually attend a picnic, filled with dance and celebrations with friends and family, Azarchehr said.

“I feel Norooz is better celebrated here because when people leave their country, they miss their tradition very much and go back to it,” she said.

Knowing your traditions and culture is important, and it can bring a family together, Naserkhaki said.

“In Iran, you’re surrounded by (the celebration of) Norooz,” he said. “It’s all about the Persian new year, and it’s a time you feel proud and show how proud you are to be Persian.”

University custodian strives for better life

SJSU employee attributes progress to faith

Jasmine Duarte

Staff Writer

Nadia Canizalez has been a janitor at SJSU for five years, has been in the United States for six years and recently graduated from the Center for Employment Training as a medical assistant, she said.

Six years ago, Canizalez’s father got visas and proper documentation and brought her from El Salvador to give her a chance to improve her life, she said.

“My life here has been interesting and hard,” Canizalez said. “People coming from one country to another is hard, but I was excited, but I knew it was going to be hard.”

Canizalez lived with her father the first two years in the U.S. and then with her co-worker Elsa Prado for another two years, she said.

The only person that is with me is God. He is always around me.”

Nadia Canizalez SJSU janitor

Prado, who has been an SJSU janitor for nine years and has worked with Canizalez since she started, said Canizalez is a sweet person and admires her ability to balance work and school.

“I’ve always liked to be inde-



Nadia Canizalez sits in her living room in East San Jose. ANDREW VILLA / SPARTAN DAILY

pendent, so I wanted a place by myself,” Canizalez said.

Canizalez’s father also works as a custodian at SJSU, and he let his daughter know when they were hiring, she said.

“I had no experience as a janitor, but I figure it was like cleaning your own house, but with machines,” she said. “I’m a fast learner, so it was not too bad.”

In the beginning, Canizalez felt weird being the youngest janitor and was not used to working with older people, she said.

After working as a janitor for a year, Canizalez said she decided she needed to improve her life and started looking for places to become a medical assistant, she said.

“Everywhere was so expensive, but I could afford school at CET with help from federal loans,” she said. “U.S. helps a lot of people go to school. Not

everyone, but they try.”

Sometimes it was hard to keep up with work and school, but Canizalez said she never stopped believing in her goals.

“I would work 10:30 p.m. to 7 a.m., rest a little and then go to school, then make time to do homework, study for tests and quizzes,” she said. “It was really hard.”

Canizalez said she was thankful she was not married or had kids because it would have been much harder to keep up with all the work.

“Sometimes I felt dizzy at work because of what little sleep I would get,” she said. “I would sleep for only about four to five hours a night.”

Austin Thomas, a freshman justice studies major, said he appreciates when people pursue what they really want.

“When you think of a janitor, you just assume that’s their life and all they do, so to know some

want more than just to clean for a living is cool,” he said.

Canizalez graduated Jan. 25, and since then has not had luck finding a job in the medical assistant field, she said.

“Right now I’m looking for a job, and I am blessed I still work at SJSU because I still have to pay my bills,” she said.

Though things not always work out the way she wants, Canizalez said she tries to stay positive.

“You can’t always have a plan that will work, but what you can do is be prepared for what can happen, even if it’s bad,” she said.

Whenever Canizalez feels she is in a tough place, she said she can always turn to God.

“The only person that is always with me is God,” she said. “He is always around me.”

She keeps him close and tries not to let herself lose that focus, she said.

Health care bill passes House with special deals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tucked into President Barack Obama’s health care bill are several 11th-hour changes that help major insurance companies and doctor-owned hospitals.

Among the beneficiaries, according to lobbyists and congressional aides, are Kaiser Permanente, the giant California-based insurance company; Geisinger Health Plan based in Pennsylvania; and doctor-owned health facilities in about a dozen states, including Ohio, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

House leaders approved the revisions Sunday when lawmakers voted on the health

care legislation. They were included in a 153-page bill revising the giant Senate-passed overhaul package, and in separate language that Democrats plan to add.

Some of the special deals in the health care bill have been widely derided by Republicans and Democrats, and a few have been dropped.

Last year, to help win the vote of Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., the massive Senate measure had included \$100 million that only Nebraska would get in added federal Medicaid assistance. Dubbed the Cornhusker Kickback, it was eliminated in the revisions bill.

House boosts college aid for students in need

Riding the coattails of a historic health care vote, the House on Sunday also passed a broad reorganization of college aid that affects millions of students and moves President Barack Obama closer to winning another of his top domestic policies.

The bill rewrites a four-decades-old student loan program, eliminating its reliance on private lenders and uses the savings to direct \$36 billion in new spending to Pell Grants for students in financial need.

In the biggest piece of education legislation since No Child Left Behind nine years ago, the bill would also provide more than \$4 billion to historically black colleges and community colleges.

The bill was paired with the

expedited health care bill, a marriage of convenience that helped the prospects of each measure. That combined measure passed 220-211.

“We are pairing this historic health reform with another opportunity that cannot be missed — the chance to make the single largest investment in college affordability ever at no cost to the taxpayers,” said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif.

The Senate will take up the bill next week under the same expedited rules used for health care legislation. That means the Senate can pass the education measure by a simple majority, virtually guaranteeing its success despite qualms from some Democrats and opposition from Republicans.

CRIME

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that he takes several precautions to make his vehicle less of a target.

“I make sure to lock my doors, close the windows, and put anything valuable inside my trunk or glove compartment,” he said.

Aguayo said the main way to avoid property crimes in the garages is to make your vehicle look unattractive, because the first thing thieves are looking for are valuable items in plain view.

“We try and encourage people as much as possible to make sure their vehicles are locked and property is secured,” said Sgt. John Laws of UPD. “Don’t leave anything out that is going to attract peoples’ attention.”

Alan Banuelos, a junior criminal justice major, said he feels fairly safe parking in the garages.

“I think UPD does a pretty good job of making sure the garages are secure, but I don’t think there is really an effective way of reducing all crime,” Banuelos said. “There’s just no way of catching every shady character that lurks in the garages.”

SAFETY TIPS

* Be aware of your surroundings and other people who may be around you.

* Consider carrying a noise-making device (such as a whistle) with you.

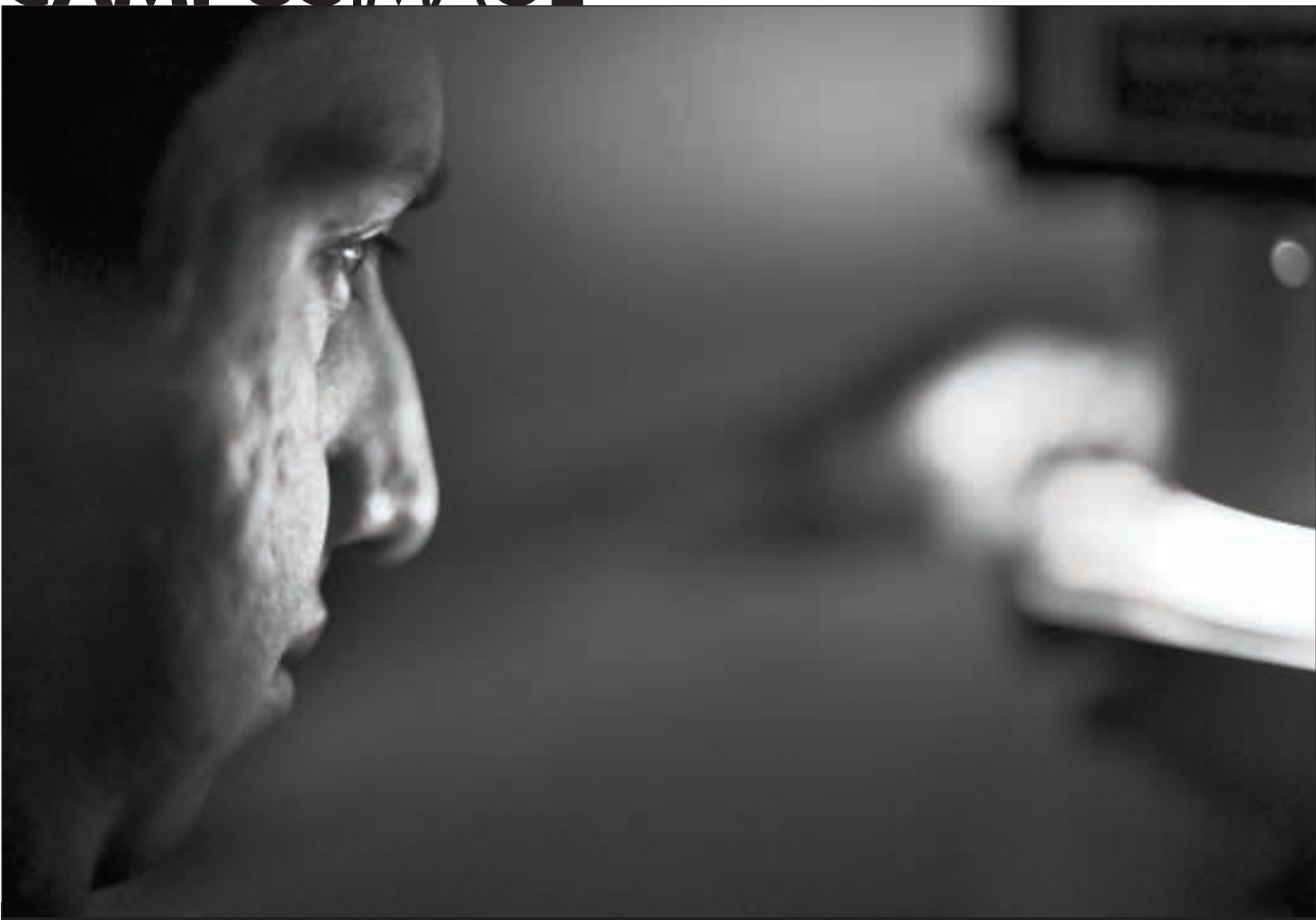
* Always have your keys in your hand and ready for use when you approach a locked door.

* Look around your vehicle and in the back seat before getting in.

* Drive on well-traveled streets, keep your doors locked (make it a habit to lock your doors as soon as you get into your vehicle).

*Courtesy of the UPD Web site

CAMPUS IMAGE



Thomas Webb / Contributing Photographer

Germin Pourmohsen, a junior photography major, looks into the lamp of his projector as he works on a photo project in the darkroom in Duncan Hall on March 10.

DIVERSITY

From Page 1

“What organizations generally do, they do broad outreach to diversify applicant pools so they can have the broadest possible representation,” he said. “And inclusion is ensuring that diverse populations within the organization have a voice so that they’re included in the mainstream of organizational discourse.”

Sociology P--rofessor Wendy Ng said she occupies the “faculty in residence” position for diversifying the faculty.

She said she works with the faculty to help with outreach efforts alongside the Office for Equal Opportunity, which assists them with issues of inclusion on campus.

“I am working on recruiting and outreach to diverse faculty in efforts to have them apply to SJSU for faculty positions,” Ng said.

She said the recruitment of diverse faculty is part of a long-term plan to have a more varied faculty at SJSU.

“I am also working on a survey in conjunction with the Faculty Affirmative Action Committee to assess how tenure-track faculty feel about

diversity issues on campus,” she said. “I will work on trainings for department search committees in their hiring efforts.”

During the Fall 2009 semester, Dunklin said the Office for Equal Opportunity was the facilitator of a diversity dialogue for discussing racial profiling.

“Faculty, staff and students got together with a common experience, viewed video clips showing possible instances of racial profiling and after there was a group discussion about it,” he said.

The Diversity Dialogue series, which began in 2009, also continues into this year.

Dunklin said when the diversity dialogues were held last semester, most of the participants were students and said he feels this is one way for students to increase their knowledge of diversity issues.

“We’re encouraging faculty members to give extra credit, if appropriate, for their students to come and bring their classes,” he said.

Another way the Office for Equal Opportunity reaches out to students is by going out to student organizations and talking about issues of diversity and harassment in classrooms, Dunklin said.

“We’re always looking for new means of going out to talk to students about diversity, and

any club or organization that asks us to come (to their group), we will,” he said.

The Office for Equal Opportunity staff also speaks with R.A.s so they are better informed on diversity and harassment issues to better enable them to do their jobs when interacting with university residents, Dunklin said.

Rosalina Calderon, an analyst for the Office for Equal Opportunity, said she has been coordinating the upcoming event with guest speaker Tim Wise, who is from the Speak Out organization.

Calderon said she hopes to be able to reach out to the campus community as a whole to create more awareness of diversity topics, and said she wants them to be more active and participate in more diversity issues.

“I think one of the best things about SJSU is its diversity,” said senior nursing major Jan Rose-lynn Sablad.

“I took a class called the Filipino Experience, and I think it’s great that SJSU offers a class dedicated to Filipino history,” she said.

Brian Edmondo, a sophomore electrical engineering major, said he feels the diversity at SJSU is great and that he thinks the university is one of the most diverse college campuses.

“I would support a plan that helped further improve the cultural aspect of the school’s environment, but would be wary of additional spending given the school’s current budget crisis,” he said.

Religious groups unite for change



(Left to right) Timothee Castagna, Senior public relations major, Billal Asghar, senior global studies and health science double major and senior economics major Uzair Haq discuss what was said at the interfaith seminar after it was finished. DONOVAN FARNHAM / SPARTAN DAILY

Donovan Farnham
Staff Writer

Could Jesus Christ become a focal point for both the followers of Islam and Christianity to work toward social change? asked a Christian scholar Thursday night.

An audience of 40 people, including a Christian scholar and the president of the Islamic Organization of North America, met to discuss how Christianity and Islam are working toward a common goal of improving social wrongs in society.

Robert Shedinger, an associate professor of religion at Io-

wa's Luther College, said Christ could become common ground for the followers of the two religions to work toward social equality in the world.

Mustapha Elturk, president of the Islamic Organization of North America, said the two religions are similar and should work toward common goals.

Elturk said the two belief systems are natural partners for doing good in the world and when they come together, along with other politically active and religious groups, strides social justice can be made for all people.

"Social justice is work that involves everyone," he said. "Religion and what you believe in will be settled on the day of judgment. I should be open to work with anyone that shares the same concerns in the place where we live to come together to fight these injustices that go on everywhere."

Shedinger said this is a point he focuses on in his book "Was Jesus A Muslim?"

"If societal transformation towards greater levels of justice is inherent to what it means to be a Muslim and if societal transformation was inherent in the mission of Jesus, then guess what, Jesus was a Muslim," he said.

Shedinger said this concept is difficult for Christians to accept because of their views on Christ as a religious figure and on Islam as a religion.

He said this thinking isn't correct because Islam isn't so much of a religion as it is a way of life of working toward justice and that Christ was not only a religious figure but also a politi-

cal activist.

Karimah Al-Helew, a senior social work major, said she thought Shedinger's ideas on religion were interesting because they mirror how Muslims view Islam.

"Hearing a Christian person speak about trying to take Christianity not just as a religion but rather as a way of life, which is how we view Islam," Al-Helew said. "As Muslims, that's how we view Islam. It's not just a religion, it's a way of life. Seeing that aspect presented from a person of the Christian faith was pretty cool. I like that."

Lukogho Kasomo, a senior political science major, said she thought the lecture was interesting, but she never thought Jesus as a political reformer.

"This was the first time that I've heard this concept of Jesus as a Muslim," Kasomo said. "Personally, I've, theologically I guess, seen Jesus as being radical in general. So, being for social justice in general."

Al-Helew said political activism is something that's a daily reality in the United States for the Muslim community and that others will work toward the common goal of bettering society.

"I hope that from this talk that people will see social justice and working for social change is a responsibility and not just an option," she said. "This is your responsibility, which is how I see it as a Muslim. Fighting for social justice, change and finding equal rights for people that's not something on the side, it's something I need to make time for every day."



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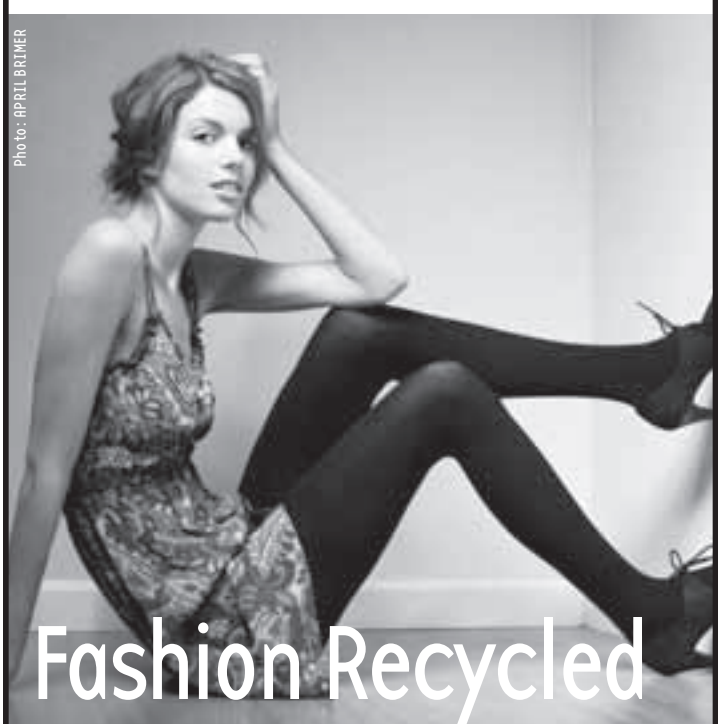


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Five-actor play behavin' in San Jose

REVIEW

Angelo Scrofani
Staff Writer

For the cast members of "Ain't Misbehavin'," playing nice and minding their manners proved to be an entertaining mix of innuendo and antics alike.

One song in particular, titled "Honeysuckle Rose," has lyrics that give an engrossing interpretation of a man who

becomes aroused by a young lady, cleverly employing the power of suggestion to its advantage.

The actor who performed the song made it obvious what he was thinking, but said it through facial expressions that gave a wink and a nod to each sexual metaphor.

It translated to the crowd quite well as a few women who were scattered throughout the theater responded to the performer's actions with several instances of applause and muffled "whoo-hooing" throughout the song.

This Tony award-winning musical features a cast of three women and two men. The play is set in the 1920s and 1930s as African-Americans in New York experience life during the Harlem Renaissance.

Based around the musical talents of Thomas "Fats" Waller, a pianist known during the time period for his brilliant song-writing, the cast works in unison with a full jazz ensemble to illustrate a time in history when music and dance served

Ain't Misbehavin'

Where: San Jose Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio

Through: April 18

Cost: \$29 - \$69

Run time: 2 hours with 15-minute intermission

as methods of escape from social and class distinctions.

The costumes were a genuine attempt at taking the audience back in time, as actors dressed in zoot suits, bowler hats and arm garters were accompanied by actresses in pastel attire and feather-lined headbands.

The performers emerged from a pleated velvet curtain that created a vaudeville-style atmosphere, and they performed on a stage fitted with low ambient lighting to help offset the bright glow of the spotlights.

Stage props were minimal, using little more than a couple of tables with alcoholic drinks.

The band innocuously played in the background to help set the scene of club goers who did the jitterbug to songs such as "The Joint is Jumpin'."

All these elements intro-

duced themes of love and lust, which commingled with each other, presenting the dynamics between a man and woman in a comical and theatrical way.

With a cast of only five people, each female character played the part of a third wheel, often showing up on a date with one of her male counterparts while he was busy flirting with another actress.

The band was instrumental in helping the cast develop the setting with a sound specific to the jazz genre which dominated the club scene during the Harlem Renaissance.

According to the show's playbill, this was a period of time referred to as the "Golden Age of Jazz," when music and the Harlem Renaissance played a pivotal role in establishing the artistic identity of the African-American community, as portrayed in the lives of these five characters.

The musical element of the show supported the writer's effort in recreating this integral piece of history and acted seamlessly with the efforts of the plot.

My favorite part of the show took place toward its finale with a performance of "Black and Blue," — a composition which featured all five performers in a somber digression to the musicals overall upbeat and comical approach.

For a brief moment, the



Christopher L. Morgan performs in "Ain't Misbehavin'" currently playing at San Jose Repertory Theatre. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE SAN JOSE REPERTORY THEATRE

number offered the audience insight into what it was like to live in a time that was as much of a struggle as it was to enjoy.

Amid all of the laughter, the performance brought another level to the show, with the cast demonstrating a degree of talent so exceptional that the audience had an emotional lapse going from giddy uproars to a silent moment of reflection.

Filled with big voices teetering between robust harmonies and soft melodies, the audience was seduced by a brazen performance given by a talented group who left the stage with their backs to a standing ovation.

Just blocks from campus, it was a short distance for an entertaining show, and it was a great way to spend a Friday night.



(Left to right) Aurelia Williams, Ken Robinson, Angela Grove, Christopher L. Morgan and Rebecca Covington all star in 'Ain't Misbehavin.'



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Sparks triggers tears in newest novel

REVIEW

Melissa Sabile
Staff Writer

In "The Last Song," author Nicholas Sparks tugs on the heartstrings of his readers by writing about family feuds, faith, falling in love and finding oneself.

"The Last Song" features Ronnie Miller, a young protagonist who takes the reader through the transitions she endures during one unforgettable summer.

Miller, who is forced to stay with her father for the summer, is a wild teenager who wants nothing more than to return to her life in New York. Instead, she and her 10-year-old brother are shipped off to Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, to spend time with their dad.

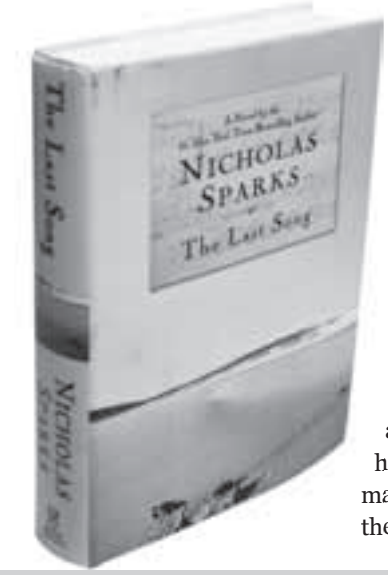
One of the things I liked most about the book was that the narration wasn't through only one person's point of view. Sparks lets his readers experience the book through the eyes of Ronnie, her father Steve, the town troublemaker Marcus, and Will Blakelee, her love interest. Each chapter is told from a different character's perspective.

One theme in the book is the ongoing feud between Marcus and Blakelee, two small-town boys after the attention of the same girl. Marcus is a sleazy degenerate who is only out for

one thing from Miller. Blakelee is the local heartthrob — practically town royalty — and is intrigued by Miller's boldness and spunk.

Throughout the novel, we see the bond between Miller and Blakelee grow into young summer love.

They struggle through the



STEFAN ARMJO / SPARTAN DAILY

social-hierarchy expectations placed on Blakelee and the numerous ways Marcus tries to sabotage their relationship. Through the family hardships that Miller faces, the two teenagers learn what it really means to be in love.

We discover early on in the book that Miller was somewhat of a child prodigy at the piano, a talent she inherited from her father Steve, who was formerly

a piano teacher at Juilliard.

A lot of the book centers around Miller's refusal to play the piano and her father boarding up the family piano to put it out of her sight. The piano and her father's newest song composition are ultimately what bring Miller and her father back together.

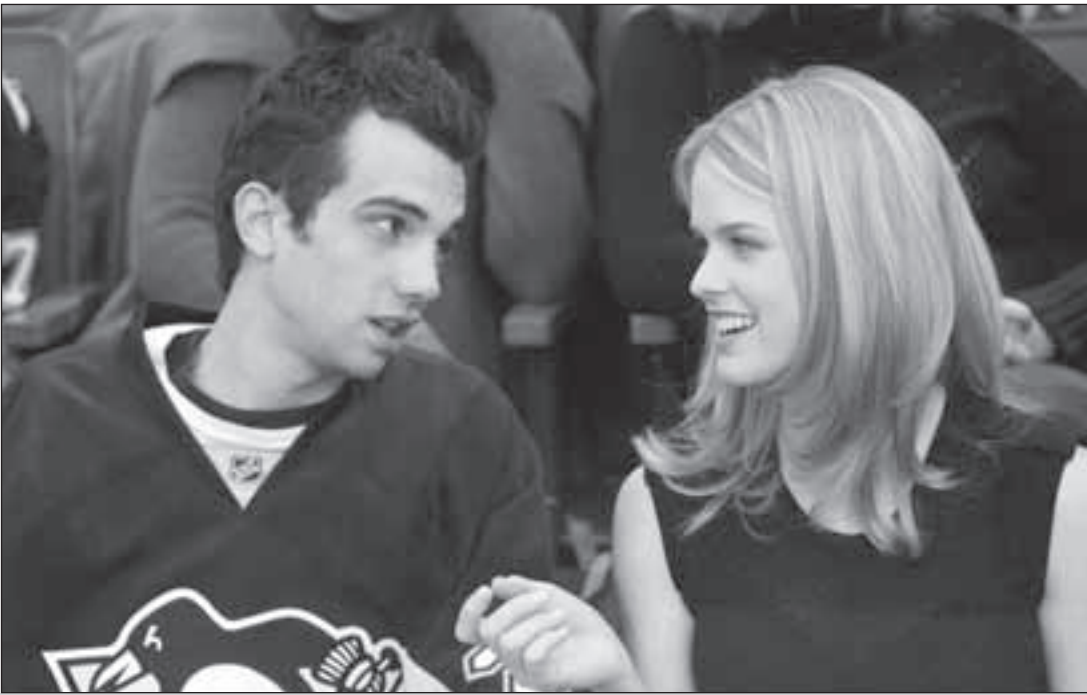
The book takes an unexpected turn as it shows Miller's attitude toward her father change from anger to contentment to concern, when we discover that Steve is suffering from terminal cancer.

Miller exhibits her newfound maturity by taking her anger from her father's illness and channeling it into her latest piano composition, as she plays one last song for her dying father. It was dismal, yet glorifying to see that in the midst of something terrible, positive things can come about.

The novel can best be described as a tear-jerker.

I definitely spent the last six chapters in bed with a box of tissues and my heart went out to the fictional characters in the book.

If you've read and enjoyed any of Sparks' previous novels, you will be pleasantly surprised by this one. "The Last Song" follows a slightly different pattern than most of Sparks' books, yet the passion he has for the characters is clearly displayed throughout the novel.



(Left to right) Jay Baruchel plays Kirk and Alice Eve plays Molly in 'She's Out of My League.' PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALL MOVIE PHOTO WEB SITE

Romantic comedy enters the league of mediocrity

REVIEW



Donovan Farnham
Staff Writer

"She's Out of My League" is an awful, unfunny and awkward mess that you should avoid at any possible opportunity.

The premise of the film is your typical boy-meets-girl-who-is-ridiculously-better-looking-than-the-boy-who-later-has-his-ego-get-in-the-way-of-one-of-the-best-things-that-happens-to-him-in-the-story-and-presumably-his-life tale.

Think of the film as "Aladdin," "Lady and the Tramp" and "Beauty and the Beast," but is nowhere near as charming or memorable, and has a complete lack of singing flatware.

Jay Baruchel, from the movie "Tropic Thunder," stars as Kirk, and Alice Eve plays Molly.

Kirk, an awkward 20-something who works a dead-end job at an airport and is described by his friends as a five-out-of-10 on attractiveness, runs into the girl of

his dreams by chance.

Molly, who is considered the polar opposite of Kirk in every imaginable way, is highly motivated, attractive, charming and considered by the majority of the men in the movie as the pinnacle of feminine beauty.

The story follows Molly and Kirk from their fateful encounter at the airport to their many dates and awkward, supposed-to-be-funny shenanigans and numerous breakups until the very end when the credits roll and they live happily ever after.

One issue I have with this movie is you get too much of Kirk, who comes off as annoying and whines too much about how much his life sucks, and yet he doesn't do anything to fix his life until the very end of the movie.

As for Molly, there are few scenes that show what she is thinking and why she's dating a clumsy doofus like Kirk.

Instead of a good explanation of Kirk and Molly's attraction, viewers are given the terribly clichéd movie plot of "he's not like the other guys I've dated and he makes me laugh" instead of anything meaningful — I'm willing to bet serial killers aren't like the guys Molly dated, but we don't

see her dating one either, which is too bad because it probably would have made for a better movie.

The audience isn't given a real opportunity to come to the conclusion of why Kirk and Molly are together because any time they're on a date, a clip montage plays of them walking through parks and chatting in candle-lit restaurants while sappy music is playing in the background — it's like the movie is saying "No, trust me, these two are meant to be together."

The story also stops short of being thoughtful on several occasions where it could touch on deeper social issues, such as the class difference between Kirk's abrupt and crude middle-class family and Molly's ivy-league upbringing or how friends can influence relationships for better or worse.

Instead, the film goes the opposite route and depends on a lot of penis jokes and stupid one-liners that move the story forward — if premature ejaculation never plays into a movie plot again, it would be too soon.

"She's Out of My League" ultimately misses its mark. It tries too hard to be funny and ends up like a bad sitcom that isn't worth the time to watch.

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SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NCAA brings March Madness to San Jose

Uptempo style of play gives perimeter players an opportunity to excel

COMMENTARY

Kyle Szymanski
Sports Editor

As Danero Thomas' shot hit the bottom of the net and the crowd went wild, everyone in attendance at HP Pavilion on Thursday knew March Madness had arrived in San Jose.

But Thomas' game-winning shot to give 13th-seeded Murray State a 66-65 victory over No. 4 seed Vanderbilt was only the first display of stellar play by perimeter players that defined the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament in San Jose.

With the exception of the University of Texas at El Paso and the University of Montana, every team in every game was led offensively by their perimeter players, who were aided by the use of an uptempo style of play.

Thomas, Isacc Miles and B.J. Jenkins carried the Racers in their first-round game, scoring 42 of the team's 66 points.

Two games later, University of Washington guard Quincy Pondexter continued the theatrics when he drove to the basket and scored with 1.7 seconds remaining to give 11th-seeded Washington an 80-78 win over No. 6 Marquette.

Pondexter scored 18 points to go along with Isaiah Thomas' 19 and Elston Turner's 14 in the Huskies opening-round win.

The duo of Pondexter (18 points) and Thomas (15 points) was largely responsible for leading Washington to the Sweet 16.

"We did a great job of forcing our tempo on them," Pondexter said after Washington's win over New Mexico. "We knew they were a transition team going into this game, and we wanted to show that we have another level of

fast break and defensive intensity." Not to be outdone, Butler guard Gordon Hayward made the play of the game for the Bulldogs on Sunday when he tipped the ball away from Murray State guard Isaiah Canaan, keeping him from attempting a game-tying three as time expired.

"Our smaller lineup was incredible defensively," said Butler head coach Brad Stevens.

Butler wouldn't be on their way to the Sweet 16 if it wasn't for the spectacular play of its guards.

Butler guard Shelvin Mack had a game-high 25 points and Hayward had 13 to lead Butler over the UTEP 77-59 in its opening-round win.

The three guard lineup of Ronald Nored, Hayward and Mack were the top three scorers in Saturday's win over Murray State.

The performance by perimeter players highlighted the rapidly evolving use of three-guard and three-forward lineups by college basketball teams today, who are slowly phasing out the conventional use of the center position.

It's no surprise that teams are switching to an uptempo style of offense because it works.

Washington proved that with two convincing wins this weekend.

"We're not a bad uptempo team, but they play much better fast and those are the type of games that they like to shoot the ball within the first 15 seconds," Marquette forward Lazar Hayward said after Marquette's loss to Washington.

Only one of six teams, Montana, featured in the first and second rounds in San Jose started a conventional center, and to no surprise, it saw an early exit despite a career-high 26 points from Brian Qvale.

In its defeat of Montana, New Mexico was led by perimeter players



Above: New Mexico's A.J. Harden and Washington's Quincy Pondexter fight for a rebound on Saturday.
CLIFFORD GRODIN/ CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Right: Murray State's Jewuan Long celebrates after the 13th seeded Racers defeated Vanderbilt on the final shot of a first round game in the NCAA Tournament.
CLIFFORD GRODIN/ CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



Roman Martinez (19 points) Dairese Gary (15 points) and Darington Hobson (11 points)

UTEP, who relied heavily on big 275-pound Derrick Character for its offensive production Thursday, was eventually overtaken by hot perimeter shooting of Butler.

"Zach hit a couple threes and Gordon hit a couple threes and it has to be frustrating to the other team when you are rolling like that," said Butler forward Matt Howard.

The Bulldogs shot 53 percent from the field in the second half and were led by Shelvin Mack who had 25 and Hayward who had 13.

Murray State's guards began the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament in San Jose with a flash and the perimeter players of Washington made sure it ended with a bang.

If San Jose is any indication, the road to the Final Four will be paved by teams whose perimeter players excel in an uptempo style of play.

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- Long bout
- Starched
- Einstein's hometown
- Wd. part
- FBI agent (hyph.)
- Throw off heat
- Buy by mail
- Even, for Keats
- Horses do it
- Hagar, to Heiga
- New Age adepts (2 wds.)
- Cabbie's fares
- Shade of blue
- Garden-pond fish
- Archeology find
- Good, to Guido
- Sports network
- Thai language
- Huge racket
- Fine (hyph.)
- Zing
- Nest builder
- Fil's friend
- Ball-gown fabric
- Sherpa's sighting
- Opel and topaz
- Luminous
- Part of CBS
- Red-waxed cheese
- Drops feathers

DOWN

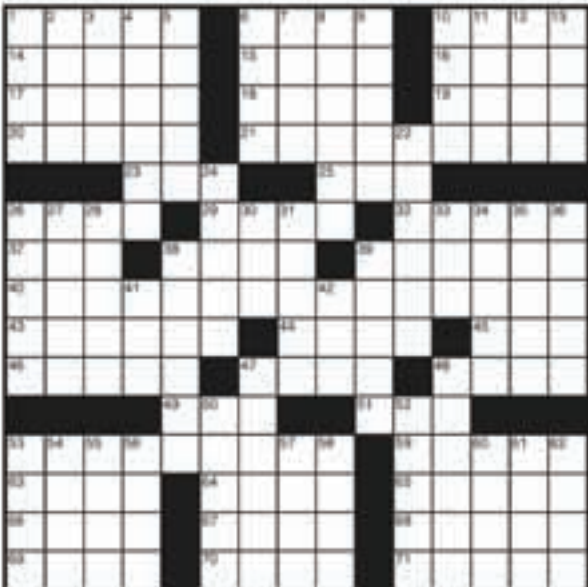
- Young woman
- Others, to Ovid
- Ply a gondola

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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| 4 Ninja's leader | 38 Seldom |
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| 7 Ant or roach | 42 Was up for |
| 8 Orchestra member | election |
| 9 Cartoon duck | 47 Thundered |
| 10 Faucet hookup | 48 Sufficient |
| 11 Lana — of "Chocolate" | 50 Platitude |
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Shocked and culturally conflicted

Before I left to study abroad in Costa Rica, I attended several meetings where travel-seasoned speakers looked down from their podiums and PowerPoint presentations to caution the wide-eyed study-abroad applicants about culture shock.

They warned us that we would be subject to feelings of depression, anxiety and loneliness as we struggled to adapt to a culture whose values and customs differ dramatically from our own.

I should have listened. Stark cultural contrasts became obvious immediately when I arrived.

My host mother chidingly clicked her tongue when I told her I didn't attend church and audibly gasped when I said I supported abortion, which is illegal in Costa Rica.

I had to accustom myself to being called "gringo," the inoffensive but not necessarily endearing term they use for "white guy."

The most disturbing contrast came indirectly from Costa Rica's biggest industry and the major factor in its relative prosperity — tourism. To them I was just another tourist looking for a party on the beach.

Everywhere I turned, it seemed as though somebody wanted to sell me something, give me an authentic tour or show me the bar with the best girls.

At first, this was little more than an annoyance, but eventually I had to face the facts. As a gringo in Central America, I was considered a commodity.

Often those who weren't trying to sell me something met me with a cold, frank indifference.

Many of those who actually got



Eric Van Susteren
Staff Writer

to know me were surprised to learn my priorities were not to drink beer, surf and meet Costa Rican women.

Some were flattered, albeit somewhat perplexed I was so interested in their culture.

At this point culture shock was in full swing. I was lonely, isolated and desperate for acceptance from the local culture.

Fortunately, these feelings soon passed.

I eventually felt accepted by at least some of my peers and by my family, who actually did care for me.

I came to understand the culture of Costa Rica and became proficient in the Spanish language.

After seeing some of its poorer areas, I began to understand how important tourism was to the country.

It dawned on me that the ubiquitous salesmen, tour guides and taxi drivers who prefer American dollars over Costa Rican colones rely on tourism for their own livelihood.

I understood that many of their prejudices against gringos came from sloppy-drunk businessmen

shouting the lyrics to Jimmy Buffet while they groped waitresses and bleached blondes demanding in broken Spanish that they be served tacos as if they were in Cancun.

I realized that tourists like these were the reason Costa Ricans looked at me as just another gringo.

They were the reason I'd never really be accepted into the culture of Costa Rica.

I held nothing but disdain for those tourists and avoided them like lepers until the day I left.

I was depressed and irritable for months after my return. I felt even more isolated than I had in the beginning of my stay.

It seemed like everyone irritated me. They all reminded me of the embarrassing and frustrating stereotypes I had seen in Costa Rica.

I missed the people of Costa Rica and their culture, but mostly, I missed my life there.

Eventually I regained some common ground with my peers and found solace in the comforts of the life I had before I left.

Culture shock was far worse when I went back to the United States.

I was genuinely unhappy being at home again, and it took months for me to readjust to the customs and culture of my own homeland.

Living abroad taught me impressions and faults of my own culture and what discrimination and alienation can feel like.

I'm not embarrassed to call myself an American, but haven't lost all my cynicism.

I still cringe every time I hear Jimmy Buffet sing "Margaritaville."

Outliving expectations

For most people, Disney World is the happiest place on Earth.

Not for me.

When I was 7 years old, my family and I visited Disney World.

It was a grand ol' time. We went to the Epcot Center and traveled through the different worlds with wonder and awe in our eyes.

My brother was 3 years old, and like any young tot he was excited and running around looking for Mickey Mouse and company.

Then a strange thing happened.

His excitement started evaporating. He wasn't running around anymore and he was losing interest in the magical world of Walt Disney.

My dad started carrying him around everywhere and he was missing out on everything.

His lack of energy became such a worry that we ended up taking him to a hospital, and eventually we found out what was wrong.

He had leukemia.

There was no way I could comprehend the anyone having a condition as deadly as cancer, especially a small child such as my brother.

Watching both my parents cry as he went into surgery to have an IV installed into his chest had no effect on me, because I didn't understand what was going on.

Seeing him eat through that same IV because he wouldn't eat any other way had no effect on me, because that's just how things were.

His bald head became a commonplace sight and seeing him with hair became strange and odd.

He had once-monthly appointments with the doctor that made my whole family cringe, because every visit resulted in him having large needles stuck into his spinal cord.



Husain Sumra
Husain in the Membrane

Growing up knowing there was a real chance I could lose my best friend and brother put everything else on the back burner.

I learned fairly quickly there's no point in worrying about the future when you can enjoy today.

Some may say that attitude allows you to run away from the problems surrounding you, but I think it gives you more perspective.

How would I have enjoyed my time with my brother when I would

constantly wonder if I would ever see him again? I couldn't.

Millions of people know people who have some sort of cancer and probably have to go through the same thing.

It's not possible to know what's going to happen in the future, so why bother?

I had no clue that shortly after he was diagnosed with leukemia, I would contract a skin disease called Stevens-Johnson Syndrome.

The disease is one that affects your skin, but could spread to the inside of your body and kill you.

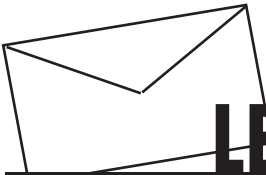
Because of the symptoms, my lips would sometimes turn black, and avoiding the sun became a necessity because of how weak my skin had become. I would sometimes wake up with my eyelids shut tight and wouldn't be able to open them.

The big question then became "Do I outlive him or does he outlive me?"

On Friday, March 19, 2010, my brother turned 19 years old.

"Husain in the Membrane," appears biweekly on Mondays.

Husain Sumra is the Spartan Daily managing editor.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This letter is a response to 'Drink of the week: Man up to a Manhattan cocktail' that appeared on Thursday.

The way Kevin Hume described the luxurious manhattan cocktail sent chills down my spine and now I can't wait to go out tonight.

The right drink can either make or break your night. Hume hit the nail on the head explaining how the perfect drink carries a contrast of bitter and sweet.

I am not an alcoholic but I am a college student.

I have enjoyed a variety of drinks in my life but the manhattan cocktail sounds perfect to fit my night out at Santana Row.

Dennis Ho

This letter is a response to 'Teachers should teach, not tease' that appeared on Thursday.

Dear Editor: The only way teachers will ever be able to relate to students in this generation is to be young and social.

I completely agree with Jennifer Hadley in her article, "Teachers should teach, not tease," that if the teacher gives off a friendly, firm and exciting first impression, a good majority of the class will more likely succeed.

The older generations of teachers are so dull and monotone that students have no excitement to pay attention in class.

With budget cuts affecting our education, we want our money to be used properly by actually being engaged in our classes.

I understand experience is a worthy attribute in the teaching profession but so is the social aspect of the person.

If a teacher is able to engage with his or her class on a personal level, each student feels more of an obligation to not let the teacher down, which in turn equals better grades.

Sam Canchola

This letter is a response to 'Have fun, but don't go overboard' that appeared on Wednesday.

Dear Editor: I would like to commend Ben Cadena on his article "Don't go overboard: Alcoholism is a life-threatening disease."

It resonated with me in ways I can't even fully explain.

My aunt is a high-functioning alcoholic and has been for the past 20 years of her life. She will stop at nothing to protect her bottle.

No matter if it's a birthday gathering or a church service, she's guaranteed to be intoxicated.

With the death of my grandpa and aunt two years ago, her dad and

sister, her drinking has skyrocketed in ways my family and I didn't even think were possible.

Alcohol has taken over her mind, body and soul.

It's reassuring to know that Cadena was able to see life beyond the bottle.

Though Cadena's article was bittersweet, it gives me hope that my aunt may still be able to overcome this horrid disease.

Laura Queen

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SJSU's Anna Natalizio (right) and Arizona State University's Bonnie Miles fight for a loose ball during SJSU's 8-7 win on Saturday. KIBIWOT LIMO/ SPARTAN DAILY

Late goal lifts Spartans past ASU

Salman Haqqi

Staff Writer

With 1:19 left in the fourth quarter, Kelly Stewart scored her only goal to give the Spartans an 8-7 win over the Arizona State Sun Devils in a Mountain Pacific Sports Federation women's water polo match Saturday.

The win was the sixth consecutive for the seventh-ranked Spartans and the third over a top-10 team this season. Arizona State University came into the match ranked sixth in the latest coaches' national poll.

The Spartans started out strong, taking a 3-1 lead in the first quarter with goals from Allie Stewart, Adriana Vogt and Dani Curran.

Spartan head coach Lou Tully said Arizona State posed a different challenge because of the num-

ber of left-handed players on its roster.

"They presented a real problem for us, because they have four lefties out there that are all good players," Tully said. "Left-handed players create a lot of problems for us because we're used to guarding right-handed players and that was a big issue. I thought the girls handled that very well."

The Spartans started the second quarter quickly with a goal by Curran to extend the lead to three, but Arizona State responded quickly, cutting the lead down to two and the Spartans preserved their 5-3 lead at the end of the quarter.

The momentum of the match shifted for Arizona State in the third quarter when it came out with a more offensive game plan, which paid dividends as Arizona State's Sarah Harris tied the game

at 5.

SJSU associate head coach Johnny Bega said he was uneasy at that point in the match.

"We were a little concerned," he said. "That's why we took a timeout and told the girls, 'You've got to control the ball and just keep working on the defensive end.' But I thought the girls kept their cool and really came up big on the defensive end when they needed to."

The pace of the match quickened in the fourth quarter with both teams jockeying for the lead and momentum seesawing throughout the quarter. The Spartans' Vogt struck first, scoring to take the lead 6-5, and completing a personal hat trick in the process.

The Spartans extended the lead to 7-5 with a goal by Curran, which gave her a hat trick.

Taking a full timeout, Arizo-

na State bounced back with two quick goals and the game was tied again at 7 with 2:02 remaining on the clock.

But it was a penalty call late in the fourth that set up the moment for Stewart, who scored with a penalty shot off the goal post.

Bega said it was a lucky break for the Spartans.

"It was obviously a very good call," he said. "But our girl was at the right place at the right time. It was definitely a good fortunate thing for us."

Stewart, who scored the winning goal, said it was a good all-round team performance.

"I think we were really good on defense," Stewart said. "We were getting field blocks and steals just continuously, pretty much throughout the game. I think we were pretty strong the whole game."

Spartans shine at Pro Day

Marlon Maloney

Staff Writer

About 20 scouts from 16 NFL teams traveled to San Jose to take one last look at Spartan players before the 2010 NFL Draft at SJSU's Pro Day on March 19.

The star of the day was wide receiver Kevin Jurovich, said an NFL scout who asked to remain anonymous.

"He ran some crisp routes and caught everything thrown his way," the scout said.

Jurovich posted workout numbers that would rank him within the top ten wide receivers posted on the NFL Scouting Combine Web site.

"Jurovich, the receiver, caught the ball well," said Sammy Seale, a scout for the Green Bay Packers.

He showed good straight line speed by running the 40-yard dash in 4.43 seconds, showed his ability to change directions by doing the 20-yard shuttle in 4.2 seconds and showed off his leaping abilities with a 37.5-inch vertical jump and a 10-foot-2-inch broad jump.

"I've been working hard for this for a long time," Jurovich said. "I was out in Arizona training for the past two months, and I feel like it all paid off. These were all things that I expected to do, but it's good to just (kind of) do it."

Former SJSU quarterback Adam Tafralis was also at Pro Day, looking to help out his old teammates. He is now playing for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats of the Canadian Football League.

Defensive end/linebacker hybrid Justin Cole had a solid showing in the 40-yard with times ranging in the 4.7's. Cole said he also did well in positional drills.

"I felt good about it," said Cole, referring to his Pro Day performance. "Glad to be over with it. You do all this specialized training for stuff that, most of the time, you hardly ever do in football, but you know the scouts need to see it. You just try to work on it and put your best foot forward for them when they come out here."

Seale said Cole stood out in comparison to other prospects at the event.

"We really came to see (Carl) Ihenacho, but he's still hurt you know, so ... but Cole looked pretty good today," he said.

Defensive end Carl Ihenacho, who is still recovering from a knee surgery that took place in January, was unable to participate in any drills. He made an attempt to run the 40-yard dash, but scouts eventually told him to stop trying and allow his leg to heal.

"I was at about 60 percent today, so I did the best I could," he said.

He said he hopes to be able to participate in the University of Hawaii's Pro Day, which will be held April 1 at the Home Depot Center in Carson, Calif.

None of the players have any private workouts lined up with teams as of press time, but fully intend to continue their training.

"My agent calls and lets me know," Cole said. "Then I will gladly go to wherever for what team desires me, but for now I'm just working out here."

The NFL Draft will take place from April 22-24.

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